DRAFT

TOWN OF FRANCONIA BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S REGULAR MEETING MARCH 8, 2021 AT 3PM HELD REMOTELY VIA ZOOM

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Eric Meth, Jill Brewer.

OTHERS PRESENT: Kim Cowles, Jenny Monahan, multiple online attendees.

The meeting was called to order at 3:03pm.

APPOINTMENTS:

3:00pm – Wenonah Nyborg-Brewer – Composting: Wenonah presented information to the board about the environmental benefits of composting food waste and the ways the town may implement a food waste composting program or encourage residents to compost their food waste.

3:15pm – Mittersill Resort Manager, Lois Bijole – Nuisance Odor: This appointment was postponed for the time being as Health Officer Dr. Wolcott thinks the issue may be resolved or a solution is in progress.

TO SIGN/APPROVE:

The March 8, 2021 transaction list was reviewed and signed by the Selectmen remotely. The minutes of February 8, 2021 and March 1, 2021 were approved as amended.

TO DISCUSS/REVIEW

Town Administrator Update: Town Administrator Cowles said that a second public budget hearing needs to be held in order to add two fund transfers, one for the library and one for recreation, to the warrant. The hearing was scheduled for Monday, March 15, 2021 at 5:00pm.

The Life Squad would like to purchase an iPad for the ambulance for \$1,128. The device will assist the Life Squad with GPS and will have software that will make reporting more efficient.

Town Administrator Cowles said an abutters notice was received from the Dept. of Environmental Services regarding an application to build within the protected shoreline of the Gale River. A copy of the application will be sent to the town.

Town Administrator Cowles has also been working with the hospital to arrange for a traveling nurse to visit homebound people in the area so they can receive their Covid-19 vaccines.

Karen Foss, Jan Cole and Dawn Steele have been assisting Town Administrator Cowles with the Unassigned Fund Balance Policy and a draft for the board's review should be available soon.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Cable Consortium: Selectman Meth said on March 12th at 5:30 the Grafton County Broadband Committee will be hosting a seminar titled "Broadband for Your Community - Getting Started". He thinks attendance is limited but invited interested parties to reach out to him for the link. Selectman Meth is planning to reach out to Carol Miller, the former NH Director of Broadband Technology to hopefully arrange for her to meet with the GCBC.

Chamber of Commerce: No update.

Conservation Commission: Chairman Brewer said the next meeting is Wednesday, March 24th at 4:00pm via Zoom, and they plan to discuss the Franconia Valley Core Trail Network and how to ensure its long term integrity for the community.

Energy Commission: The next meeting is March 16th at 4:30pm via Zoom.

Planning Board: Selectman Meth said the next meeting is Wednesday, March 10th at 7:00pm to continue working on the Master Plan update.

PUBLIC INPUT:

Mary Grote asked Town Administrator Cowles to send a copy of the abutters notice to Chris Nicodemus of the Conservation Commission. Regarding the composting discussion, Mary suggested someone research bear proof compost containers.

Dawn Steele asked if public attendees will be able to comment at the Zoom Public Budget Hearing. The answer was yes.

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jenny Monahan
Administrative Secretary

These minutes of the Town of Franconia Select Board have been recorded by its Secretary. Though believed to be accurate and correct they are subject to additions, deletions and corrections by the Select Board at its next meeting when the Board votes its final approval of the minutes. They are being made available at this time to conform to the requirements of New Hampshire RSA 91-A:2.